Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 25 and ending at page 8, line 22 to read, as follows.

--The image forming apparatus shown in Figure 1 has four image formation units which comprise four developing devices 6 (6Y, 6M, 6C, and 6Bk) and four image bearing members 4 (4Y, 4M, 4C, and 4Bk), one for one. Designated by a referential numeral 3 is a belt driving apparatus for conveying a transfer medium 2, that is, a piece of recording medium, delivered from the sheet feeding portion 1. While the transfer medium 2 is conveyed by the belt of the belt driving apparatus, it remains adhered to the belt. As the transfer medium 2 is conveyed by the belt of the belt driving apparatus 3, [[2,]] a plurality of toner images are sequentially transferred onto the transfer medium 2. Then, after the transfer of all the toner images onto the recording medium 2, the transfer medium 2 is passed through the fixing means 7. While the recording medium 2 is passed through the fixing means 7, the toner images on the transfer medium 2 are fixed to the transfer medium 2. Then, the transfer medium 2 is discharged by the pair of discharge rollers 8 into the delivery tray 9 located on top of the image forming apparatus. Next, each of the operational potions of the image forming apparatus, by which the above described image formation steps are carried out, will be described in the appropriate order.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 15, line 27 and ending at page 18, line 16 to read, as follows.

--The belt 3a is provided with a pair of ribs 3b, as first (male) regulatory portions, for preventing the belt 3a from being deviated in the direction perpendicular to the moving

direction of the belt 3a. The ribs 3b are disposed on the inward surface of the belt 3a, along the lateral edges thereof, one on one. On the other hand, the adhesion roller 13 is provided with a pair of grooves 13c, as second (female) regulatory potions, in which the pair of ribs 3b of the belt 3a are to fit. The ~~fit, The~~ grooves 13c are located at the lengthwise ends of the adhesion roller 13, extending circumferentially along the edges, one for one. Thus, it is expected that as the ribs 3b fit in the grooves 13c, one for one, the belt 3a [[3b]] is prevented from being deviated in the axial direction of the rollers. The first portion is a protruding portion, and second portion is a recessed portion.

Theoretically, a belt, in particular, a belt formed of a resin, stretched around a plurality of shafts does not deviate in the axial direction of the shafts unless it is subjected to some type of force which acts in the axial direction. In reality, however, such a belt is likely to be deviated in the axial direction of the rollers because nonuniformity in the distance between adjacent two belt supporting rollers, a difference in circumference between the left and right edges of the belt, nonuniformity in the thickness of the belt, and the like factors are likely to result in the generation of such force that pressures the belt 3a in the axial direction of the rollers. Thus, in the case of the above described structural arrangement in which the lateral movement of the belt is regulated by the provision o the combination of the ribs on the belt side, and the grooves on the flange side, each rib is pushed against the unspecific (left or right) wall of the corresponding groove of the flange by the above described lateral force. Further, in some cases, the lateral force is large enough to cause the ribs to move out of the grooves and run onto the belt bearing surface of the flange.

Thus, in this embodiment, the belt driving apparatus 3 is provided with a pair of rollers 20, that is, rotational members, for preventing the belt 3a from locally bulging (floating). The pair of rollers 20 are located near the pair of grooved flanges 13b of the adhesion roller 13, one for one, on the upstream side, that is, where the pair of ribs 3b [[13b]] fit into the pair of grooves 13c, one for one, in other words, the upstream side of the area where a given point of the belt 3a comes into contact with the adhesion roller 13 as the belt 3a is circularly driven. Each roller 20 is in the adjacencies of the corresponding rib 3b of the belt 3a. The shaft of each roller 20 is roughly in parallel with [[to]] the shaft of the roller 13. Each roller 20 is rotatably supported by the unshown frame. Referring to Figure 3, the distance L from the peripheral surface of the belt 3a to the peripheral surface of the roller 20 is no more than the thickness (height) t of the rib 3b. Therefore, when the belt 3a is not in motion, the roller 20 is not in contact with the belt 3a, remaining aligned with the rib 3b in terms of the radius direction of the adhesion roller 13, with the interposition of the belt 3a. On the other hand, when the belt 3a is in motion, the roller 20 prevents rib 3b from coming out of the groove 13c. In other words, the roller 20 is a regulating member for regulating the deviation of the belt 3a in the radius direction of the adhesion roller 13.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 24, line 14 and ending at page 25, line 9 to read, as follows.

--After the transfer of the black toner image, the next developing device 6 is orbitally moved and stopped at the location at which it opposes the image bearing member 4. Then, it develops the latent image on the peripheral surface of the image bearing member 4 in the same manner as did the developing device 6 for developing the latent

image corresponding to the black color component. Then, the developed latent image is transferred onto the intermediary transfer belt 40a in a manner to be layered on the black toner image on the intermediary transfer belt 40a. This sequence of forming a latent image on the peripheral surface of the image bearing member 4, developing it, and transferring the developed image onto the intermediary transfer belt 40a is repeated for the rest of the color components of the intended image. As a result, four color images (yellow, magenta, cyan, and black toner images) are deposited in layers on the intermediary transfer belt 40a. Next, the four color toner images on the intermediary transfer belt 40a are transferred all at once by the secondary transferring means 17 [[7]] onto the transfer medium 2 delivered from the sheet feeding portion 1.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 27, line 3 and ending at page 27, line 23 to read, as follows.

--The intermediary transfer belt 40a is provided with a rib 40b, as a first regulatory potion (protruding portion), for regulating the deviation of the intermediary transfer belt 40a in the direction perpendicular to the direction in which the intermediary transfer belt 40a is circularly driven. The rib 40b is disposed on the inward surface of the intermediary transfer belt 40a, circumferentially along one edge thereof. Further, the follower roller 44 is provided with a flange 44c, which has a groove 44d, as a second regulatory portion (recessed portion), in which the rib 40b of the intermediary transfer belt 40a is to fit to regulate the lateral deviation of the belt 40a (movement in the axial direction of roller 44). The groove 44d is positioned so that it parallels the edge of the intermediary transfer belt 40a. Thus, it is expected that as the rib 40b fits in the groove 44d, [[43d,]] the belt 40a

[[3b]] is prevented from being deviated in the axial direction of the rollers. The first portion is a protruding portion, and second portion is a recessed portion.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 29, line 27 and ending at page 31, line 4 to read, as follows.

--More specifically, the roller 50 is a regulating member, and is disposed so that when the belt 40a is not in motion, the roller 50 does not contact the belt 40a, while remaining in alignment with the rib 40b in terms of the radius direction of the roller 44, with the belt 40a interposed, in order to regulate the deviation of the belt 40a in the direction to float from the peripheral surface of the roller 44. Thus, when the belt 40a is in motion, the roller 50 prevents rib 40b [[44d]] from coming out of the groove 44d.

With the provision of the above described arrangement, even if such force that pressures the belt 40a sideways, that is, even if the belt 40a is pressured in the direction to force the rib 40b to come out from the groove 44d [[40d]] and run onto the belt bearing surface of the flange 44c, the peripheral surface of the belt 40a comes into contact with the roller 50. Therefore, the belt 40a is prevented from coming out of the groove 44d [[40d]] and running onto the belt bearing surface of the flange 44c. In other words, the above described structural arrangement stabilized the movement of the belt 40a.

Further, in this embodiment, the roller 50 is tilted outward with reference to the direction in which the belt 40a is rotationally driven. Therefore, while the belt 40a is in contact with the roller 50, the roller 50 pressures the belt 40a outward of the belt 40a in terms of the width direction of the belt 40, further assuring that the rib 40b is prevented

from coming out of the groove 44d, [[40d,]] and also, that the belt 40a is prevented from being damaged.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 31, line 15 and ending at page 32, line 6 to read, as follows.

--Further, there is provided a cleaning unit 46, which is at a predetermined location in the adjacencies of the peripheral surface of the intermediary transfer belt 40a. [[46a.]] The cleaning unit 46 removes the residual toner, that is, the toner remaining on the belt 40a after the toner images on the belt 40a are transferred all at once onto the transfer medium 2. The cleaning unit 46 has a charge roller 46a which can be placed in contact with, or moved away from, the belt 40a. In order to clean the intermediary transfer belt 40a, voltage which is opposite in polarity to the voltage applied for transfer is applied to the residual toner on the intermediary transfer belt 40a. With the application of the voltage, the residual toner on the intermediary transfer belt 40a is electrostatically transferred onto the image bearing member 4, and then, is recovered by the cleaner 31 [[31c]] for the image bearing member 4.--